

## **May 1944 - May 2014 - time to celebrate the Poles in Norfolk**



***The Polish flag flies above the ruins of Monte Cassino, Italy, 18 May 1944.***

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In July 1945 the British government withdrew recognition of the Polish Government in Exile (a government that had been housed in London since 1939 supporting the cause of freedom for the world and for Poland) and went on to then recognize the Russian backed government in Poland. As if this was not an insult and shock enough for the Poles who had fought so bravely and given so much in the fight against Nazi Germany, the British, under pressure from Russia, went on to at first refuse Polish forces permission to march in the Victory Parade in London and then try to placate them with a partial presence which of course they did not accept - not even the brave surviving Poles of the RAF squadrons who had played such a vital part in the Battle of Britain - a tragic and forgotten smear on our past. This left the British with just one more problem - what to do with the large Polish Army still camped in Italy. The choices were to send them back to Poland - where thousands would undoubtedly be executed as the 14,000 Polish officers and intellectuals had been at Katyn in May 1940 by the Russians - or to assimilate them in Britain. It was decided to take the latter option - no doubt through necessity as certainly many Poles would have refused to return to a now Russian controlled Poland, a Poland they had fought to free from Nazism and now saw handed to the Russians on a plate.

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Written by Administrator

Monday, 14 April 2014 12:00 - Last Updated Thursday, 17 April 2014 08:40

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*Lt. Gen. W. Anders*



*3rd Carpathian Divisional Sign*

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5th Divisional Cavalry



Polish bugler, Cassin The Last Post

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